

very, very hopeful that we will do an omnibus because an omnibus at least gives the government and its agencies a year's worth of notice as to what resources they have to use to accomplish the objectives we have asked them to.

I wish I had a more specific answer for you, but, as you know, the negotiations are going on about the top line, and hopefully that will be resolved relatively soon.

Mr. SCALISE. A broader discussion for another day. Clearly, as we look at next year, we would hope to pass all 12 appropriations bills out of the House, but as the gentleman points out, at some point the Senate is going to have to start moving appropriations bills, too. It can't just be this game of chicken where the clock is going to strike midnight and the Senate waits to start doing their job until it is already the midnight hour as opposed to it would be nice if there was some kind of shot clock they had after we send them a bill where they would actually act on that bill so it is not just an onus on the House to do our job, whether it is a partisan or bipartisan bill, and we have seen both that come out of the House.

At some point, the Senate has also got to do their job in a legislative body where you have a House and a Senate, if we are going to be able to conduct business that is not always waiting until the midnight hour to finally get a resolution on something as important as this. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding. The gentleman is absolutely correct. There is a shot clock. It is September 30 at midnight. That is the shot clock. That is when government no longer is funded if we do not take some additional action.

I said to somebody this morning, there are 535 of us. Presumably we are all adults, presumably we are all rational people. Neither side would agree that everybody is that. But the fact of the matter is, we don't do what we know we have to do. You may want to do a lot of things, and we passed from our perspective very good legislation through this Congress, but the only thing you have to do is pass the 12 appropriations bills so you can fund the operations of government or make a decision that you are not going to fund a department, a program, an activity, whatever. But we don't do that.

We have, unfortunately, the sense that the delay is an acceptable process, as the gentleman points out. Then you get to the last minute, a crisis, and then you get a big bill we call the omnibus bill, that really it is so large and so few people have been participating in the formulation of that bill that it is unfair to the Members of Congress, and it is unfair to the American people.

I couldn't agree with the gentleman more that the appropriation process should be done, my own view is each bill should be considered individually. The Republicans started the practice, we followed the same practice of bundling them so we could save time. I

look forward to working with the gentleman. I am going back to the Appropriations Committee, working with Chair DELAURO and Ranking Member DELAURO on doing that. But to her credit, all 12 bills were reported out of committee in a timely fashion, and this is gratuitous—you didn't ask for this advice—but what I would suggest we should have done if we could have done it is start the markups in May, pass the bills in June, send them to the Senate, and have July and August and September to resolve differences between the two, and pass the bills by September 30. That is what we ought to do, I agree with the gentleman. It is an objective that we ought to try to attain.

Mr. SCALISE. I share the gentleman's concerns there. One of the reasons we put the calendar out for next year this early and built time in during those months before the summer so that there is ample time to get all 12 appropriations bills through the House, give the Senate time to do the work well in advance of the deadline, and then at some point the onus has to be on them to do the job they have to do before the midnight hour. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. One of the things—I have been on the Appropriations Committee; I was on it for 23 years before I took leave—we had actual conferences, Senators and House Members on the two subcommittees came together, discussed differences, tried to resolve those differences. That essentially does not exist any longer, and it is not healthy, I think, for the institution.

Mr. SCALISE. It is a good suggestion and something we can get back to, hopefully, in the new year, try to make this process work better. I appreciate the suggestion.

Again, we will have this conversation more next week. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH UKRAINE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who recently honored the over 14 million of his countrymen in Ukraine who died during the Holodomor, the Soviet-enforced famine that purposefully starved Ukraine in the early 1930s to subjugate them and politically control them.

Then, as now, the tyrants of the Soviet Union, Josef Stalin, and Russia used food and famine as a weapon of war. Innocent civilians are not unintended victims but, rather, specific targets of horrific brutality to rule over them.

Russia's and Putin's aim in this modern era, waging a war on Ukraine, is to

kill, maim, starve, freeze, and torture as many men, women, elderly, and children as possible.

These are war crimes. Putin and his enablers are war criminals. But the courageous Ukrainian people have not broken, they have not bent. They fight on with great valor.

As Ukraine leads this righteous fight for her liberty, her sovereignty, and her very survival, it is incumbent upon all free nations to aid her in her time of need.

Ukraine, America stands with you. The world stands with you. We pray and fight for the day that your home will be a peaceful, enterprising, and virtuous one again.

AMERICA SHOULD RETURN TO THE GOLD STANDARD

(Mr. MOONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOONEY. Mr. Speaker, the United States is facing an inflation and debt crisis not seen in over 40 years. West Virginians have seen the value of their savings erode before their very eyes because of reckless tax-and-spend policies.

We know who is responsible for the current inflation crisis, but what in our country's history has allowed us to get to this point? The answer can actually be traced back to 1971, when President Nixon took the United States off the gold standard.

The gold standard means tying the dollar directly to the value of gold. Under the gold standard, any American would be able to trade their dollars for a fixed amount of gold. By linking the dollar to the value of gold, the money supply could only be increased if the supply of gold increases. This connects and protects the purchasing power of your dollars.

That is why I introduced legislation to return the United States to the gold standard. Had we been on the gold standard or some other fixed standard, we would not be in the inflation crisis we are in today. I look forward to working with the Republican majority to make sure this issue gets attention.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BETTY RAY MCCAIN

(Ms. ROSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and legacy of Betty Ray McCain, who sadly passed away last week.

She was a force of nature. She spent decades fighting for North Carolinians, from working for former Governor Jim Hunt to serving on UNC's Board of Governors.

Much of the social progress we have made in North Carolina can be credited to Betty Ray McCain's work with the